

CALFED Bay-Delta Water Quality Parameters of Concern

| Ecosystem | Urban | Agriculture |
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| <u>Metals</u> | Bromide | Boron |
| Cadmium | Nutrients (Nitrate) | Chloride |
| Copper | Pathogens | Nutrients (Nitrate) |
| Mercury | Salinity (TDS) | pH (Alkalinity) |
| Selenium | TOC | Salinity (TDS, EC _w) |
| Zinc | Turbidity | SAR |
| <u>Organics/Pesticides</u> | Viruses | Turbidity |
| Carbofuran | | Temperature |
| Chlordane | | |
| Chlorpyrifos | | |
| DDT | | |
| Diazinon | | |
| PCBs | | |
| Toxaphene | | |
| <u>Other</u> | | |
| Ammonia | | |
| Dissolved Oxygen | | |
| Salinity (TDS, EC) | | |
| Temperature | | |
| Turbidity | | |
| Unknown Toxicity | | |

California Water Clearinghouse

www.bay-delta.org

Bay-Delta Issues Update

June 1997

Part I

This is a 3-part series of Bay-Delta Issue Updates designed to provide a comprehensive overview of current events related to a Delta solution.

CALFED Bay-Delta Program Just Six Months From Release of Draft Preferred Alternative

Now beginning its third year, CALFED's Bay-Delta Program is just about six months away from unveiling its draft preferred alternative for a long-term, comprehensive "Delta fix." Staff and stakeholders alike are involved in complex and intensive technical and policy assessments of the program's three proposed alternatives. All are seeking the solution that best promises to finally end California's most contentious water dispute and provide a firm foundation for the state's continuing prosperity.

"The business community believes that this is the last best chance in California to resolve these issues," Sunne McPeak, co-chair of the Bay Delta Advisory Council (BDAC), recently noted.

In addition to developing the Delta solution, a variety of related activities are taking place. These range from efforts to secure the first of three federal appropriations of \$143 million for Delta ecosystem improvements, to work to renew the Bay-Delta Accord, to a new stakeholder effort to improve the quality of participation in the CALFED process.

"This will be the defining year for the success of the collaborative process among the state and federal agencies and all the stakeholders," noted Steve Hall, executive director of the Association of California Water Agencies and a BDAC member.

"On many key issues, there is strong consensus among all the parties. The major challenge for all of us now is to resolve our outstanding differences in a way that contributes to a lasting solution for the Delta and all those who are dependent upon it," Hall added.

Perhaps the most surprising phenomenon to

observers accustomed to the past divisive nature of California water policy-making is the remarkable commitment by all interests to stay engaged in the process for the past two-and-one-half years.

"Despite all the friction on a number of issues, no one wants to bolt the process," noted Jason Peltier, manager of the Central Valley Project Water Association. "Everyone is committed to seeing it through and coming to a solution."

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Sunne McPeak, Co-Chair,
 Bay Delta Advisory Council

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 At a recent public forum organized by the CALFED agencies, David Behar, then-executive director of the Bay Institute declared, "We have one major message—we are believers. In the past we felt that conflict was the only avenue for action, but we don't believe that now."

CALFED Moving Ahead

In September, 1996, after nearly a year of public hearings and workshops, the CALFED program reached an important milestone, announcing three basic Delta alternatives. The goal of each is to restore the ecological health of the estuary and improve the water management capabilities of the system. Plans call for a staged implementation of the solution, perhaps taking 30 years to complete, with costs estimated to range between \$4 billion and \$8 billion over that time.

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